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Appendix—About the Political Reform Act/How to Get Help

Appendix-1

What's New for 2007 and 2008

State Ballot Measure Contributions and Expenditures: Section 84204.5 was added to the Act by AB 1759 (Chapter 438, Stats. 2006) requiring the filing of online reports by candidates and committees that make contributions or independent expenditures totaling \$5,000 or more to support or oppose the qualification or passage of a state ballot measure. Regulation 18466 was adopted to clarify the disclosure requirements. (See page 8-7 and 8-10.)

Where to File Campaign Statements: Section 84215 was amended by AB 473 (Chapter 54, Stats. 2007) to reduce the number of copies of statements that must be filed with county filing officers. (See page 6-5.)

Telephone Advertisements: Section 84310 was added by AB 2275 (Chapter 439, Stats. 2006) requiring candidates and committees that use campaign funds to make 500 or more telephone calls to disclose the name of the person or organization that authorized or paid for the call. A script of the call or a copy of a recorded telephone message must be kept by the committee for four years. Certain exceptions apply. FPPC Regulation 18440 was adopted to clarify the disclosure requirements. (See page 4-8.)

Officeholder Accounts: Section 85316 was amended by SB 145 (Chapter 624, Stats. 2006) to allow elected state officers to raise funds for officeholder expenses into a separate officeholder account, subject to certain restrictions and limitations. FPPC Regulation 18531.62 was adopted to specify disclosure and other committee requirements. (See Chapters 1, 5, and 6.)

Recordkeeping—Copies of Canceled Checks: Regulation 18401 was amended to allow committees to retain copies of canceled checks (rather than the original documents) if the copies contain a legible image of the front and back of the canceled check and the copies are obtained from the financial institution. (See page 2-6.)

Committee Names: Regulation 18402 was amended to require the last name of the candidate to be included in the name of any election committee controlled by the candidate. The new requirement applies to committees formed on or after July 1, 2007. (See page 5-9.)

Installment Payments: Regulations 18216 and 18421.1 were amended to clarify that contributions received via "installment" payments charged to a credit card or deducted from a contributor's account are reported when each installment payment is received and that such arrangements do not constitute an "enforceable promise" to make a contribution. (See page 3-2.)

Street Address: Regulation 18421.2 was amended to include Army and Air Force Post Office and Fleet Post Office addresses in the definition of "street address."

Bank Accounts: Regulation 18421.3 was adopted to allow candidates to contract with a vendor or collecting agent to collect contributions prior to transferring to the campaign bank account without violating the "one bank account" rule. (See page 2-1.)

Reporting Expenditures for Gifts, Meals, and Out-of-State Travel: New Regulation 18421.7 and amendments to Regulation 18401, as adopted at the Commission's February meeting, will require additional detailed disclosure and recordkeeping for expenditures related to gifts, meals, and out-of-state travel. Copies of the regulations are available on the FPPC website.

Legal Defense Committees: Regulation 18530.4 was amended to impose additional restrictions and disclosure requirements on legal defense committees. (See Chapters 1, 5, and 6.)

Refunding General Election Contributions: Regulation 18531.2 was adopted to assist candidates who are defeated in a primary election or who withdraw from a general election in determining which expenses may be deducted from the amount that must be refunded to general election contributors under Section 85318.